REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable consideration of this application, as presently amended, is respectfully requested.

By the present Preliminary Amendment a new Abstract believed to be in more proper format under United States practice is submitted.

Further, the claims are amended without prejudice to no longer recite any reference indications or multiple dependencies. The claim amendments are not believed to narrow the claims in any aspect.

The present application is believed to be in condition for a full and thorough examination on the merits. An early and favorable consideration of the present application is hereby respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND, MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.

bund Sachan

 $\begin{array}{c} \text{Customer Number} \\ 22850 \end{array}$

Tel: (703) 413-3000 Fax: (703) 413 -2220 (OSMMN 06/04) MJS/SS:aif Gregory J. Maier Attorney of Record Registration No. 25,599 Surinder Sachar

Registration No. 34,423

I:\ATTY\SNS\278097us-pr.DOC